

An attempt to understand what a consolidation means (June 3, 2013)

Let's compare the mission of the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission (CVRPC):

ARTICLE II. POWERS AND PURPOSES

The legal basis and powers of this Commission are stipulated in the Vermont Municipal and Regional Planning and Development Act, 24 V.S.A. Chapter 117, and such other laws as may be enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont.

The mission and purpose of the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission is to assist Central Vermont municipalities in providing effective local government and to work cooperatively with them to address regional issues. The Commission shall coordinate and assist in efforts to promote the health, safety and general welfare of the people of Central Vermont through development and planning activities affecting physical, natural, and human resources. In all efforts, the Commission shall foster the wise expenditure of public funds and resources necessary for the efficient delivery of governmental and community services.

with the mission of Central Vermont Economic Development Corporation (CVEDC):

OUR MISSION

C.V.E.D.C. was organized in 1976 as a non-profit citizen organization whose objectives are to provide impetus for the region's economic development activity by:

Assisting the businesses in the area that are expanding;

Providing advisory services, education and information to area businesses;

Promoting Central Vermont and its resources to business and industry contemplating new facilities in our region;

Improving the infrastructure necessary for economic growth;

Supporting our members in ways that will allow them to maintain and enhance their ability to be a driving force in their industry through contacts, technology and other resources;

Serving the Central Vermont area.

And this is the mission of the new organization called Central Vermont Regional Commission (CVRC):

“The purpose and mission of the Central Vermont Regional Commission is:

- ♦ To enhance the quality of life for the citizens of Central Vermont;

- ♦ To foster effective and informed local governance;

- ♦ To attract and retain quality jobs and businesses;

by means of planning and economic development.

The way I understand the consolidation report is that it lays out how to technically and legally form a new organization but does not make the case why the mission of the new organization is beneficial for Central Vermont.

CVRPC serves the towns to better serve their citizens.

CVEDC serves businesses to better succeed.

Combining these two different goals under one organization creates an unhealthy competition within the new organization.

Communicating and cooperating as two distinct organizations creates a dynamic force that would be more beneficial to Central Vermont as a region.

Rolf Mueller

Calais Delegate to CVRPC